Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Grassroots volunteers in South Dakota have worked for more than 25 years to pass legislation to reduce the harmful effects of smoking and secondhand smoke; and,

Whereas, There are 7,000 chemicals in secondhand smoke, hundreds of which are toxic and 69 of which are known to cause cancer; and,

Whereas, In 2009, House Bill 1240 became a law prohibiting smoking in all workplaces and public places including bars and restaurants. In 2010, on the November ballot, South Dakota voters approved the smoke-free law by a 64-36 percent margin; and,

Whereas, Exposure to secondhand smoke has immediate adverse impact on the cardiovascular system, damaging blood vessels, increasing likelihood of clots, heart attacks, strokes, and increases the risk of emphysema, lung cancer, and other chronic diseases, and causes premature death in children and adults who don't smoke; and,

Whereas, Tobacco use is responsible for 1,000 deaths in South Dakota annually, including most of the 620 lung cancer deaths; and,

Whereas, There was almost a 14 percent decrease in heart disease hospitalizations from 2009 to 2011, the years before and after enactment of the smoke-free law, and an 8 percent drop in hospitalizations for respiratory illnesses; and,

Whereas, The drop in heart attacks and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease hospitalizations resulted in a cost savings of nearly $5.5 million for South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 10, 2013, as

SMOKE FREE SOUTH DAKOTA DAY

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourth Day of November in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State